

A019 Worker Compensation Benefit, Policy, and Operations

L&I provides over \$1.5 billion in insurance benefits for about 144,000 new workers' compensation claims each year. L&I is charged with the responsibility of providing sure and certain relief to eligible workers who are injured or become ill as a result of a workplace injury or exposure. Benefits are provided when a worker is injured or develops a work-related illness while working in employment covered under the Industrial Insurance Act. Benefits include wage replacement during the period the worker is unable to work, payment for medical services related to their work-related injury or illness, return-to-work or vocational assistance to workers who cannot perform the job at the time of injury, monetary payment for physical or mental impairment resulting from injury or illness, or lifetime pension benefits for workers or their family members if a worker is permanently disabled or fatally injured while working. The adjudication of state fund pensions and the administration of both state fund and self-insured pension payments are provided by the Policy and Quality Coordination program. This program also is responsible for the appropriate adjustment to workers' compensation payments for recipients who are entitled to Social Security disability or retirement benefits.

	FY 2006	FY 2007	Biennial Total
FTE's	926.2	906.7	916.5
GFS	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$93,708,223	\$95,316,982	\$189,025,205
Total	\$93,708,223	\$95,316,982	\$189,025,205

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality and productivity of our workforce**Expected Results**

Promptly processing 144,000 claims filed annually. Managing over 55,000 open claims at any given time. This involves monitoring the provision of over \$540 million paid out annually for medical treatment, in addition to lost wage replacement benefits, and awards for permanent physical impairment amounting to over \$520 million annually. Delivering the initial payment of wage replacement benefits to eligible workers within 14 days of receiving the claim. Processing over 600,000 payments for on-going time-loss compensation benefits to eligible workers on a regular, semi-monthly basis. Providing return-to-work or vocational services to approximately 14,500 workers each year who are not able to return to work within 14 days of their disability. Adjudicating and timely paying \$420 million annually in pension benefits to approximately 22,000 permanently disabled workers, and beneficiaries of workers killed on the job. Adjusting benefits for workers who also receive social security payments. Receiving and responding to over 698,000 incoming phone calls per year. Making determinations within the statutory time frames on over 7,500 applications to reopen closed claims received annually. Responding in a timely manner to the over 6,000 decisions on appeals issued annually by the Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals.

Appropriation Period: 2005-07 Activity Version: F2 - 2005-07 Activity Recast

Median number of time loss days per claim closed during the fiscal year. (This is the number of work days lost due to workplace injuries or disease.)				
Biennium	Period	Target	Actual	Variance
2005-07	8th Qtr	37	0	(37)
	4th Qtr	38	0	(38)
2003-05	8th Qtr	39	40	1
	7th Qtr	39	40	1
	6th Qtr	39	40	1
	5th Qtr	39	41	2

Number of days from the date of receipt of a claim to the allowance or rejection decision.				
Biennium	Period	Target	Actual	Variance
2005-07	8th Qtr	26	0	(26)
	4th Qtr	27	0	(27)
2003-05	8th Qtr	28	22.7	(5.3)
	7th Qtr	28	21	(7)
	6th Qtr	28	22.3	(5.7)
	5th Qtr	28	20.4	(7.6)

Number of injured workers who are returned to work with the employer of injury through the Department's Early Return-to-Work Program.				
Biennium	Period	Target	Actual	Variance
2005-07	8th Qtr	550		
	7th Qtr	550		
	6th Qtr	550		
	5th Qtr	550		
	4th Qtr	550		
	3rd Qtr	550		
	2nd Qtr	550		
	1st Qtr	550		
2003-05	8th Qtr	550	481	(69)
	7th Qtr	550	512	(38)
	6th Qtr	550	584	34
	5th Qtr	550	742	192
	4th Qtr	0	793	793
FY04 data is 4th quarter only.				

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Timely payment of initial wage replacement benefits. The percentage of claims where the initial payment of benefits to a worker is made within 14 days of receipt of the report of accident at L&I.

Biennium	Period	Target	Actual	Variance
2005-07	8th Qtr	95%	0%	(95)%
	4th Qtr	95%	0%	(95)%
2003-05	8th Qtr	95%	93.3%	(1.7)%
	7th Qtr	95%	92.3%	(2.7)%
	6th Qtr	95%	92.4%	(2.6)%
	5th Qtr	95%	92.8%	(2.2)%